Application No. 09/905,486
Amdt. dated October 2, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Docket No. 2001-1140

REMARKS

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, applicants elect Group I, claims 1-5, with traverse.

It is believed that the requirement is improper and should not be repeated, for the following reasons:

- 1. The device of claim 6 expressly uses the method of claim 1. Therefore, it is not accurate to say that the device of claim 6 could be used in the practice of a method other than claim 1.
- 2. Thus, there is not even one-way distinctness between the groups of claims, much less two-way distinctness.
- 3. Separate classification is no indication of the propriety of a requirement for restriction. Classification is solely for the convenience of the Patent Office and the searching public and cannot diminish an applicant's rights in any way.

Therefore, an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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